



PATENT APPLICATION

#7
3/23/02
PC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Tetsuro KAWAHARA, *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/630,777

Attorney Docket No.: Q60204

Confirmation No.: 8005

Group Art Unit: 1774

Filed: August 2, 2000

Examiner: Lawrence D. FERGUSON

For: ARTICLE HAVING PHOTOCATALYTIC ACTIVITY

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 14, 2001, please consider the following remarks.

Claims 1-9 are all the claims pending in the application.

I. Paragraph Nos. 2-3: Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Inoue, *et al.* (EP 0 901 991 A2) ("Inoue") in view of Nakanishi, *et al.* (JP 60-118239) ("Nakanishi").

Applicants' Response

The present claims are drawn to an article comprising a substrate, a first n-type semiconductor primer layer film, and a second n-type semiconductor photocatalyst film, wherein the primer layer film has an energy band gap larger than that of the photocatalyst film.

Just as a chemical and its properties are examined when examining the obviousness of a composition of matter claim, it is the invention as a whole, and not some part of it, which must